

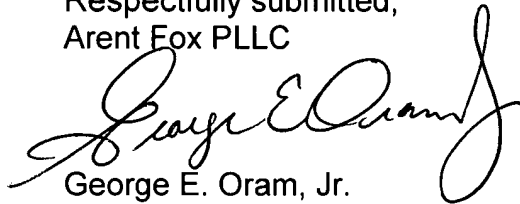
REMARKS

The Office Action dated August 6, 2004 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments are being made to correct several informalities noted therein and are not intended to be narrowing in any manner and are not made to obtain patentability.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that Claims 1 – 24 were allowable and that claims 1 and 21 were objected to. The Examiner provided specific recommendations as to how the claims could be amended to remove the objections. The claims are being so amended. Should the Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place this application into better form, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned representative at the number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referring to client-matter number 108075-00119.

Respectfully submitted,
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